

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 01641 051543Z

46

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 343

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 1641

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OEXC, ELAB, PINR, FI

SUBJECT: VOLUNTARY VISITORS - PENTTILA AND LAXEN

REF: HELSINKI 1597

1. AT LUNCH AUGUST 4 METALWORKERS CHAIRMAN PENTTILA TOLD EMBASSY OFFICERS THAT METALWORKERS INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY KAJ LAXEN IS THE LEADING CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED LARS LINDEMAN AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SWEDISH WORKERS ORGANIZATION IN FINLAND. A DECISION IS EXPECTED TO BE MADE NEXT MONTH AND IF LAXEN IS CHOSEN THIS WILL ENTITLE HIM TO A SEAT ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY WHICH IS THE PARTY'S KEY DECISION-MAKING BODY.

2. THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SWEDISH LANGUAGE LABOR ORGANIZATION WOULD NOT MEAN THAT LAXEN WOULD LEAVE HIS CURRENT POSITION IN THE METALWORKERS. LINDEMAN WAS AN MP AND CHAIRMAN OF PARLIAMENT'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE DURING HIS TENURE. HE IS LEAVING THE POSITION BECAUSE HE IS GOING TO OSLO AS THE FINNISH AMBASSADOR THIS MONTH.
HOUSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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